



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RESOLUTIONS 16-16 and 16-17
Agenda Items 1 and 2
And BILLS 85 (2015) and BILL 7
Agenda Items 6 and 8
RELATING TO TAXICABS

Honolulu City Council Transportation Committee Agenda
Hearing: Thursday, February 11, 1:30 pm,
City Hall, Room, 2nd Floor

Honorable Council members:

Charley's Taxi strongly supports Bills 7 and 85 and Resolutions 16 and 17.

Tightening the criminal background checks from two (2) years to ten (10) years, is critical to protect public safety. Thank you for supporting state legislation to access the national crime database.

As for Bill 85, our company has long supported the prevailing open entry taxi licensing system. A "Medallion System" was enacted in 1942 by Ordinance 954. My father Charles Morita led the industry to Repeal the Medallion System on December 5, 1946, Ordinance 1045.

Our family has since opposed every attempt to limit the licenses. Mayor's Fasi administration did impose an artificial numerical limit but that too was repealed.

We have proven our commitment to competition. But competition must be fair — no double standards.

The Taxicab Ordinance needs reform. The laws and rules prohibiting passing on legitimate business expenses must be amended to not penalize small business taxi operators.

But, don't throw the baby out with the bathwater!

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Honolulu's Taxicab Industry and our own company's business model is built on the consumer protections built into the Honolulu Taxicab Ordinance. Driver testing & certification, surge pricing, insurance gaps and an inspected and certified taximeter are key to consumer protections and public safety and customer satisfaction.

All of the taxicab and limousine operators in Hawaii are small businesses. Most drivers own their cars; some rent from drivers who own several cars. The technology that our company uses is superior to anything that exists anywhere. We welcome the opportunity to demonstrate it for you.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dale Evans, President

Charley's Taxi & Limousine

A small independent business serving the people of Honolulu since 1938.